

## September 25, 2006 Cambria and Somerset projects funded in bill

For Immediate Release

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Washington D.C. - The Defense Appropriations Conference Committee has agreed on a compromise version of the 2007 Defense Appropriation that includes funding for several important national programs that are managed or manufactured by companies or institutions in Cambria and Somerset counties, Congressman John Murtha announced today. The bill is expected to be approved by the House and Senate and sent to the White House for signature by the President.

"These programs are vital to our national security and to our troops in the field," Murtha said. "The companies and universities in our area, as well as their employees, are rightfully proud of the work they do to support our troops with quality products at competitive prices."

Included in the bill are:

#### Cambria County

- \* Applied Ordnance Technology, Johnstown, Army and Navy research and development programs for information technology development and advanced weapons concepts
  
- \* Concurrent Technologies Corp., Johnstown, research and development projects supporting education and training, installation management, emergency response and information technology, and intelligence, logistic and combat systems
  
- \* DRS Laurel Technologies, Johnstown, various manufacturing efforts, including initiatives on Navy radar, electronic and information technology systems and shipboard display enhancements
  
- \* Exceptional Parent, Johnstown, development of a training system for allied health care, military and medical professionals and family caregivers to better deal with the special-needs children of military personnel
  
- \* Gamesa, Ebensburg, to study the feasibility of wind power on military bases
  
- \* GAPVAX, Johnstown, development of specialized vacuum trucks to handle a variety of waste streams
  
- \* Gautier Steel, Johnstown, to establish a titanium plate-mill capability to provide lightweight, available and cost-effective ballistic solutions to the Army

- \* KDH Defense System, Johnstown, for further advancements in body armor and to develop a waterfront perimeter intrusion detection system
  
- \* Kongsberg, Johnstown, for development and testing of the M151E2 Protector Integration on Light Tactical Vehicles to improve survivability
  
- \* L. Robert Kimball, Ebensburg, working with the National Guard to provide essential communications capabilities between federal and state agencies involving homeland defense and disaster mitigation
  
- \* MountainTop Technologies, Johnstown, continuation of training, distance learning and information technology integration programs
  
- \* MTS Technologies, Johnstown, various Army and Navy training systems, medical information systems and wheeled vehicle electronics programs

#### Somerset County

- \* Kuchera Defense Systems, Windber, development of aircraft support equipment, weapons test equipment, GPS-guided weapons and helicopter threat warning systems
  
- \* Talley Defense Systems, Davidsville, Army and Marine Corps shoulder-launched assault weapons

Congressman Murtha also worked to direct funding to area colleges and universities for projects that benefit the military. Schools in the 12th Congressional District that will receive funding under the bill are as follows:

Mount Aloysius College, Cresson - for development of a Comprehensive Management Initiative for Chronic Disease. CMICD will improve patient outcomes and reduce costs associated with chronic diseases by integrating best business practices with new and emerging information technologies to support patient care

Indiana University of Pennsylvania - continuation of an effort to create and demonstrate a National Emergency and Disaster Information System for use by first responders

Health care initiatives funded in the measure include:

Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center, continued research collaborative with Walter Reed Army Medical Center in neuroscience, pain management and health informatics

Windber Research Institute - research with Walter Reed Army Medical Center for genetic markers and genetic research using tissue samples, and research on heart disease, diabetes and cancer

St. Francis University, Loretto, a rural health project by the Center of Excellence for Remote and Medically Under Served Areas, in conjunction with the Joslin Diabetes Center in Boston, which will develop, test and evaluate technology-based diabetes prevention and management procedures

Children's Hospital, Pittsburgh, projects on muscular dystrophy research and to improve the prediction, understanding and management of complications of Type I diabetes

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center - development of neuroprosthetics and solutions for spinal cord dysfunction and a program to evaluate and treat traumatic brain injury; also funding for UPMC's Diabetes Institute for continuation and expansion of comprehensive systems that address both the needs of children and adults that include enhanced data tracking, medical record keeping systems, prevention and education programs for the U.S. Air Force, UPMC Diabetes Institute, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and Conemaugh Health System